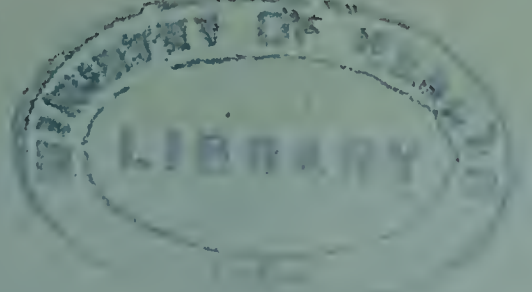


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WALSINGHAM RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.



# **ANNUAL REPORT**

of the

## **Medical Officer of Health**

### **for the year 1947**

to which is appended the

## **Report of the Senior Sanitary Inspector**

and the

## **Report of the Water Engineer.**



## STAFF.

### *Medical Officer of Health :*

J. C. JOHNSTON, M.B., B.Ch., B.A.O., D.P.H.  
(From 8.10.47).

(L. G. ANDERSON, M.D., Ch.B., D.P.H.)  
(1.1.47 to 12.10.47).

### *Surveyor and Senior Sanitary Inspector :*

A. H. EAGLE, Cert. S.I.B., A.M.I.S.E., M.R.San.I.,  
Cert. R.S.I. as Inspector of Meat and Other Foods.  
(From 26.3.47).

(H. E. GILBY, F.R.I.C.S., M. Inst. Mun. E., Cert. S.I.B.,  
Cert. R.S.I. as Inspector of Meat and Other Foods).  
(1.1.47 to 31.1.47).

### *Additional Sanitary Inspector :*

W. E. RAMM, M.R.San.I., Cert. S.I.B.,  
Cert. R.S.I. as Inspector of Meat and Other Foods.  
(From 28.10.47).

(A. H. EAGLE, Cert. S.I.B., A.M.I.S.E., M.R.San.I.,  
Cert. R.S.I. as Inspector of Meat and Other Foods).  
(1.1.47 to 25.3.47).

### *District Water Engineer :*

E. HAYMAN.

### *Assistant to Surveyor and Senior Sanitary Inspector :*

L. H. DOUGHTY.  
(Now serving with H.M. Forces).

### *Temporary Clerical Assistant :*

(Hobhouse Rural Housing Survey).

T. L. LAWN.  
(From 7.7.47).

R. F. HERRING.  
(1.1.47 to 23.2.47).

### *Shorthand-Typist :*

MISS J. H. LEWIS.

### *Clerk to Medical Officer of Health :*

D. HUNN,

# WALSINGHAM RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

H/34/A/W

Council Offices,  
Bridge Street,  
Fakenham,  
Norfolk.

## ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31st DECEMBER, 1947.

### Introduction.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in submitting herewith my Annual Report for the Year ending 31st December, 1947. This year, in order to provide the Council with early information, I am producing the Report without the Registrar-General's corrected statistics. Later in the year I will submit amended figures, where applicable in the Vital Statistics. The differences should not be sufficient to invalidate the value of this report.

I have divided this report into five parts, my general report, a summary of general Medical Information, Medical statistical report, Senior Sanitary Inspector's Report and the Report of the Water Engineer.

I hope this will enable members to refer readily to any points in which they are particularly interested.

I wish to express my great appreciation of the support and encouragement of the Public Health Committee, both on taking up my duties and in carrying them out. Also I wish to thank Dr. Anderson for the thorough introduction to my Area and to the Senior Sanitary Inspector and Water Engineer for their support and loyalty.

In conclusion it may be stated that the general health of the community in the Walsingham Rural District has been satisfactory during the year.

I have the honour to be,

Your obedient servant,

J. C. JOHNSTON,

Medical Officer of Health.

To The Chairman & Members of  
the Walsingham Rural District  
Council.

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## PART I

### (General Report of the Medical Officer of Health)

#### 1. STAFF.

During the year Dr. Anderson resigned to take up another appointment. Dr. J. C. Johnston was appointed in his place. He took up duty with the Council on the 8th October, 1947.

On the 31st January, 1947, Mr. Gilby left to take up another appointment and Mr. A. H. Eagle was appointed in his place on 26th March, 1947.

Mr. W. E. Ramm was appointed Additional Sanitary Inspector and took up duties on 28th October, 1947.

Mr. Herring, Temporary Clerical Assistant, Hobhouse Rural Housing Survey, moved from this office and Mr. T. L. Lawn was appointed in his place on 7th July, 1947.

#### 2. INFECTIOUS & CONTAGIOUS DISEASES.

##### (i) Notifiable Infectious Diseases.

(a) **Poliomyelitis.** One case occurred early in January and the patient was removed to Hospital. All necessary action was taken, i.e. closure of school, isolation of contacts, etc., and no further cases were reported.

There were no cases in this district during the epidemic.

(b) **Others.** All other infectious and contagious diseases (other than tuberculosis) remained at a satisfactory low level as compared with the previous year. Statistical information is contained in Part III, Tables 14 to 20.

##### (ii) Tuberculosis.

There were 21 new cases notified during the year as compared with 15 in 1946, an increase of 6 cases. Nine deaths occurred as compared with 10 in 1946. This increase might be accounted for by the severe winter and the difficulty in getting adequate houses.

The number of cases remaining on the Register at the end of the year is 65 Pulmonary Cases and 48 Non-Pulmonary Cases as compared with 60 Pulmonary and 44 Non-Pulmonary Cases in 1946.

During the year a scheme for the investigation of the housing conditions of these cases was introduced.

##### (iii) Scabies.

Ten cases were notified during the year. All were supplied with Benzyl Benzoate and treatment was carried out at their homes.

The Scabies Order, 1941, introduced under Regulation 33A of the Defence (General) Regulations, 1939, ceased to operate on the 31st December, 1947.

**(iv) Food Poisoning.**

There were no cases notified, although on receipt of information from the County Medical Officer of Health that a batch of liver sausage supplied by a wholesale firm had been found to contain harmful bacteria and to have caused food poisoning all retailers in the district were visited and the food seized and sampled.

Two consignments were found on sampling to contain a heavy infection with the food poisoning bacteria, but through the prompt action of the Senior Sanitary Inspector in seizing the meat before sale an outbreak of toxic food poisoning may have been prevented.

(v) Statistical information regarding infectious diseases is contained in Part III, Tables 14 to 20.

**3. CANCER.**

The incidence of deaths from Cancer during the year was 32, as compared with 34 deaths in 1946. (See Part III, Tables 10 and 11).

**4. DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION SCHEME.**

This scheme has continued to progress, thanks to the co-operation of the General Practitioners, District Nurses and School Teachers, not to speak of the parents. In fact the percentage immunised has reached such a high standard that it has been found necessary to introduce a Special Diphtheria Immunisation Register in the Schools.

92% School children and 49% Pre-School children are protected as compared with 88% School children and 43% Pre-School children in 1946. 262 Pre-School children and 96 School children were initially immunised during the year and 577 School children re-immunised. (See Part III, Tables 21 and 22).

**5. HOUSING.**

In December the Public Health Committee accepted a scheme whereby medical recommendations for rehousing are divided into two classes:—

- (a) Those persons requiring rehousing for medical reasons, unsatisfactory housing or overcrowding.
- (b) Those persons with some exceptional or urgent medical reason for rehousing.

When the Council has a series of houses to allocate this Department is asked to submit their comments on the applicants under consideration.

In this way it is hoped to ensure the most urgent cases priority of consideration by the Housing Committee.

During the year informal notices were served in respect of 253 houses and Statutory Notices on 4.

Further details are given in Part IV, Section 3.



## 6. WATER.

(a) **Piped Supply.** This continues to be satisfactory in quality although there is still a great difficulty in coping with the demand, which is on the increase whereas the yield from the Fakenham Well is lessening. (See Part V, Section 1.)

(b) **Wells.** These continue to be a great source of anxiety to this Department and results from sampling are far from satisfactory. This only makes the provision of a rural piped supply all the more imperative.

(c) **Waterworks.** On inspection of the Fakenham Waterworks the Medical Officer of Health was shown a water trap disconnecting the scour drain from the sewer. Samples of water in the seal were taken and proved polluted. The only danger from this was infection travelling up the drain to the tank. The outlet from the tank has an air gap and is therefore safe but the overflow connects to the scour drain. This was a potential danger and the Medical Officer of Health recommended to the Water Engineer that this also should have an air gap for 100% safety.

This work was carried out immediately.

## 7. SEWAGE DISPOSAL.

(i) **Fakenham Sewage Farm.** During November the Medical Officer of Health inspected the Fakenham Sewage Farm and recommended that the practice of dumping night-soil there should be discontinued as soon as possible. This recommendation has now been implemented by the Council.

(ii) **Egmere Sewage Disposal Works.** This plant, which is ideal for the proposed Walsinghams and Wighton Sewage Scheme, is being maintained by the Council but is deteriorating from lack of use.

(iii) **Little Snoring Disposal Works.** This has now been taken over by the Council and will prove a valuable asset.

(iv) **New Sewage Schemes.** The proposed schemes for the Walsinghams and Wighton and that for Fakenham and Hempton are being discussed in detail.

## 8. PEST CONTROL.

On the 15th May, 1947, a male worker employed by the Pest Control Ltd., Greenway, Fakenham, died from an industrial disease incurred whilst at his work. This was of a toxic nature. In consequence the Medical Officer of Health visited the site of the factory.

The conditions under which the preparation prepared by the Company was mixed was found to be most unsatisfactory and instructions were immediately issued to remedy the defects.

The question of contamination of the water supply to the Company was considered in detail and it was the opinion of the Medical Officer of Health that the risk of such contamination was extremely remote, **providing** that the drainage scheme as proposed by the Senior Sanitary Inspector was carried out and maintained in an efficient manner.

Since then there have been no further cases.

## 9. FACTORIES ACT.

The work necessary under the Factories Act, Shops Act and Food and Drugs Act regarding the inspection of food premises has not been carried out as thoroughly as this Department would have desired and there has not been enough supervision of these premises owing to lack of staff and time. In fact only recently has the Senior Sanitary Inspector had time to revise the Register. It is hoped in future years more will be done in this important side of Public Health work.

During the year 18 inspections were made, defects were found in 5 cases and were remedied. (See Part III, Table 23). There are no cases under Part VIII of the Act (Outworks).

## 10. SCAVENGING AND NIGHT-SOIL COLLECTION.

Nine more parishes have been included in the Night-Soil Collection scheme, making a total of 19 parishes now in the scheme. Four of these also have refuse collection, giving a total of 12 parishes with both services. (See Part IV, Sections 1 and 6.)

## 11. SHELLFISH.

Routine sampling of shellfish in the Blakeney district showed one lay to be contaminated with food poisoning bacilli. This lay has been closed for human consumption and this Department is exercising careful supervision and sampling over the lays.

## 12. NATIONAL HEALTH SERVICE ACT, 1946.

The Norfolk County Council's proposals were considered by the Public Health Committee on 19th November, 1947. The Medical Officer of Health made the following recommendations:—

### Under Section 22—Care of Mothers and Young Children.

1. Representation to the Regional Hospital Board to supply this area with some Institutional Maternity Beds. Suggest 12 situated at Fakenham.
2. The setting up of an Obstetrical Flying Squad working from King's Lynn Hospital.

These were considered by the Committee and submitted to the Council with the following amendments:—

1. That the Regional Hospital Board should provide the area with some Institutional Maternity Beds, to be located at Fakenham—estimated number 12.
2. The Council were in favour of the setting up of an Obstetrical Flying Squad, working from the Norfolk and Norwich Hospital.

These were approved and submitted.



## PART II

(General Medical Information).

## 1. GENERAL PRACTITIONERS.

- (i) Dr. T. S. Acheson, "Ballyduff," Blakeney.
- (ii) Dr. G. K. Arthur, The Oaks, Fakenham.
- (iii) Dr. J. G. Chappel, Summerhill, Fakenham.
- (iv) Dr. K. M. Little, Walsingham.
- (v) Dr. J. W. Meanley, Grove House, Melton Constable.
- (vi) Dr. R. A. Norman, Grove House, Fakenham.

## 2. HOSPITAL FACILITIES.

- (a) **General.**  
 (i) Norfolk & Norwich Hospital, Norwich.  
 (ii) West Norfolk & King's Lynn Hospital, King's Lynn.  
 (iii) Jenny Lind Children's Hospital, Norwich.  
 (iv) Cromer & District Hospital, Cromer.  
 (v) Wells & District Cottage Hospital, Wells.
- (b) **Maternity.**  
 (i) Norfolk & Norwich Hospital, Norwich.  
 (ii) West Norfolk & King's Lynn Hospital, King's Lynn.  
 (iii) Addenbrookes Hospital, Cambridge.  
 (iv) North Cambridgeshire Hospital, Wisbech.
- (c) **Infectious.**  
 (i) County Isolation Hospital, East Dereham.
- (d) **Sanatoria.**  
 (i) Kelling Sanatorium, Holt.  
 (ii) Bramblewood Sanatorium, Holt.
- (e) **Mental.**  
 (i) St. Andrews Hospital, Norwich.  
 (ii) Hellesdon Hospital, Norwich.  
 (iii) Heckingham Hospital.  
 (iv) Little Plumstead Hospital.

### 3. MATERNITY SERVICES.

- (a) District Nurses (Showing Parishes served).
- (i) Nurse Spence, Stiffkey, Binham, Field Dalling, Saxlingham, Warham, Crabbe, Sharrington, Langham, Branthill, Wighton, Cockthorpe.
- (ii) Nurse Williamson, Gt. & Lt. Walsingham, Gt. & Lt. c/o Mrs. Lingwood, Snoring, Houghton St. Giles, Wells Road, Egmore, Hindringham, Thursford, Barney, Bale.



- (iii) Nurse Thomson, Briston, Hindolvestone, Thurn-  
Fern Hill House, ing, Swanton Novers, Melton  
Hindolvestone. Constable Park, Melton Con-  
stable Burgh.
- (iv) Nurse Ayres, East, West and South Raynham,  
38, South Raynham. Helhoughton, East and West  
Rudham.
- (v) Nurse Hood, Gt. & Lt. Ryburgh, Stibbard,  
Kettlestone Rectory, Fulmodestone, Pensthorpe, Kettle-  
Kettlestone. stone.
- (vi) Nurse Green, East, West & North Barsham,  
Creake Road, Doughton, Dunton, Tatterford,  
Sculthorpe. Tattersett, Sculthorpe, Shereford,  
Pudding Norton, Toftrees.

**(b) Maternity Institutional Beds.**

- (i) Stow Vicarage, Stow. 16 beds.
- (ii) Beckham House, Gresham, Holt. 4 „
- (iii) St. Michael's, Aylsham. 2 „
- (iv) St. James Hospital, King's Lynn. 3 „
- (v) Beech House, Gressenhall. 4 „

**(c) Private Maternity Homes.**

There are several Private Nursing Homes in the County, particularly in Norwich. The nearest to this district are in New Hunstanton, Sheringham and Holt.

#### 4. AMBULANCE SERVICES.

The Ambulance Service of the District is covered by ambulances at Fakenham and Holt. These are manned by St. John Ambulance Brigade and British Red Cross Members.

In 1947 Fakenham Ambulance carried 259 cases, covering 13,837 miles. Holt Ambulance carried 353 cases, covering 12,986 miles. (These figures include cases carried in other districts).

Car cases are covered by the Hospital Car Service.

#### 5. RED CROSS & ST. JOHN ORGANISATIONS.

**(a) County Representative for St. John Stations:—**

Sir Thomas Cook, J.P.,  
20 Castle Meaden,  
Norwich.

**(b) County Representative for Red Cross Stations:—**

Miss E. W. Griffith.  
4, The Close,  
Norwich.

For all correspondence: W. A. L. Marriott, Esq., M.B., Ch.B,  
(same address).

## 6. RED CROSS MEDICAL LOAN DEPOTS.

Serve surrounding villages:—

- (a) Walsingham. —Mrs. Little, The Grange, Walsingham.
- (b) Blakeney. —Miss Page, High Street, Blakeney.
- (c) Field Dalling. —Mrs. Ellis, The Cross, Field Dalling.
- (d) Melton Constable. —The Lady Hastings, Melton Constable Park.
- (e) Melton Constable (Town). —Mrs. Sterland, Sharrington Hall, Melton Constable.

## 7. REGIONAL HOSPITAL BOARD.

- (a) Chairman . . . Lord Cranbrook.
- (b) Medical Officer . . . Dr. J. B. Ewen.
- (c) Secretary . . . K. V. F. Morton, Esq.
- (d) Member for N.W.  
Norfolk . . . S. Peel, Esq., Wells.
- (e) Address . . . Croft Holme, 117 Chesterton Road, Cambridge.
- (f) Telephone . . . Cambridge 58345.

## 8. COUNTY MEDICAL SERVICES.

### (a) Infant Welfare Clinics.

- (i) Binham . . . The Reading Room.  
Held 1st Tues. each month.
- (ii) Fakenham . . . The Court House.  
Held 2nd Wed. each month.
- (iii) Fakenham . . . The Court House.  
Held 3rd Thurs. each month.
- (iv) Melton Constable . . . Railway Institute.  
Held 1st Wed. each month.
- (v) Walsingham . . . (by Dr. Little).  
Held last Tues. each month.
- (vi) Blakeney . . . (by Dr. Acheson).  
Held last Thurs. each month.

(i) to (iv) are attended by a member of the County Medical Staff.  
(v) and (vi) are not affiliated to the Norfolk County Council and are attended by Dr. K. M. Little (v) and Dr. T. S. Acheson (vi).

### (b) School Minor Ailments Clinic.

- (i) Held at the Court House, Fakenham, and attended by a member of the County Medical Staff on the 3rd Thursday of each month.

### (c) School Dental Clinic.

- (i) Fakenham C.P.  
School . . . Held every Friday.

(d) School Nurse        Mrs. Wainwright, Fakenham.

(e) Tuberculosis.

(i) Tuberculosis Officer  
for W. Norfolk    Dr. H. B. Hodson, Tuberculosis  
Dispensary, W. Norfolk &  
King's Lynn Hospital, King's  
Lynn.

(ii) Chest Clinic at Fakenham        Held 3rd Mon. each month.

## 9. VENEREAL DISEASES CLINICS.

(i) Norfolk & Norwich Hospital, Norwich.

	Males.	Females.
Mondays .....	5—6 p.m.	4—5 p.m.
Tuesdays .....	10—11 a.m.	11—12 noon
Fridays .....	6—7 p.m.	5—6 p.m.

(ii) West Norfolk & King's Lynn Hospital, King's Lynn.

	Males.	Females.
Tuesdays ...	7—8 p.m.	Tuesdays ..... 3 p.m.
Fridays .....	7—8 p.m.	Wednesdays .. 3 p.m.

(iii) County Isolation Hospital, East Dereham.

	Males.	Females.
Mondays ...	5—6 p.m.	Fridays ... 11—12 noon

## 10. DISINFECTION & DISINFESTATION.

(a) Disinfection of premises is carried out by the Senior Sanitary Inspector's staff using Formaldehyde gas or D.D.T. Spray.

(b) Disinfestation of bedding, clothing, etc., cannot be carried out in the district, but articles are sent to Dereham Isolation Hospital.

## 11. LABORATORY SERVICES.

(a) Emergency Public Health Laboratory,  
Isolation Hospital,  
Bowthorpe Road,  
Norwich.

Under the direction of Dr. A. Macdonald.

(b) Emergency Public Health Laboratory,  
Tennis Court Road,  
Cambridge.

Under the direction of Dr. Fry.

(c) Public Analyst,  
W. Lincolne Sutton, Esq., F.R.I.C.,  
Redwell Street,  
Norwich.



**PART III**  
(Medical Statistics).

**TABLE I. GENERAL STATISTICS.**

Area (in acres) .....	88,818
Estimated Resident Population .....	18,402
Rateable Value .....	£68,214
Sum represented by a Penny Rate .....	£286

**TABLE 2. LIVE BIRTHS.**

	Males	Females	Total
Legitimate ... ..	138	150	288
Illegitimate ... ..	3	6	9
Total ... ..	141	156	297

Live Birth Rate per 1,000 of  
estimated Resident Population ..... 16.14

**TABLE 3. STILL BIRTHS.**

	Males	Females	Total
Legitimate ... ..	1	1	2
Illegitimate ... ..	1	—	1
Total ... ..	2	1	3

Still Birth Rate per 1,000 of  
estimated Resident Population ..... 0.16

**TABLE 4. DEATHS. (All Ages).**

Males	Females	Total
127	126	253

Crude Death Rate per 1,000 of  
estimated Resident Population ..... 13.7

**TABLE 5. INFANT MORTALITY. (Deaths of Infants under 1 year).**

	Males	Females	Total
Legitimate ... ..	4	2	6
Illegitimate ... ..	1	—	1
Total ... ..	5	2	7

Infant Mortality per 1,000  
live births ..... 23.6



TABLE 6. CAUSE OF DEATH OF INFANTS UNDER 1 YEAR.

Sex	Age	Cause of Death
M.	18 hours	Prematurity
M.	18 hours	Pulm. Atelectasis
M.	1 day	Prematurity
M.	2 days	Congenital Heart Disease
M.	3 days	Cong. Bilat. Atelectasis
F.	4 days	Fits. Injury during birth
F.	1 month	Broncho-pneumonia

TABLE 7. CAUSE OF TOTAL DEATHS.

Cause of Death	Males	Females	Total
Heart Disease ... ..	54	61	115
Cancer ... ..	20	12	32
Senility ... ..	11	12	23
Cerebral Hæmorrhage ...	8	13	21
Accidental ... ..	8	3	11
Tuberculosis ... ..	3	6	9
Pneumonia (All Types) ...	3	3	6
Gangrene ... ..	1	4	5
Uræmia ... ..	5	—	5
Suicide ... ..	2	—	2
Hernia ... ..	1	1	2
Maternal Mortality ... ..	—	1	1
Other Causes ... ..	11	10	21
Total ... ..	127	126	253

Many of the deaths included under the headings heart disease and cerebral hæmorrhage might just as well been classed as senility as they occurred in the age groups 80 to 100.

TABLE 8. DEATHS ACCORDING TO AGES.

Age Group	Males	Females	Total
Under 1 year ... ..	5	2	7
1 and under 5 ... ..	—	—	—
5 „ „ 10 ... ..	—	2	2
10 „ „ 20 ... ..	1	1	2
20 „ „ 30 ... ..	4	5	9
30 „ „ 40 ... ..	3	4	7
40 „ „ 50 ... ..	4	7	11
50 „ „ 60 ... ..	12	12	24
60 „ „ 70 ... ..	18	13	31
70 „ „ 80 ... ..	50	40	90
80 „ „ 90 ... ..	27	30	57
90 „ „ 100 ... ..	3	10	13
All Ages ... ..	127	126	253

TABLE 9. DEATHS (by Parishes).

Parish	Males	Females	Total
Bale ... ..	1	1	2
Barney ... ..	5	1	6
Barsham, East ... ..	—	1	1
Binham ... ..	2	—	2
Blakeney ... ..	6	2	8
Briningham ... ..	—	1	1
Briston ... ..	12	15	27
Cockthorpe ... ..	1	—	1
Doughton ... ..	—	1	1
Fakenham ... ..	20	18	38
Field Dalling ... ..	—	3	3
Fulmodestone ... ..	—	1	1
Gunthorpe ... ..	1	3	4
Helhoughton ... ..	5	4	9
Hempton ... ..	2	5	7
Hindolvestone ... ..	7	3	10
Hindringham ... ..	3	5	8
Holkham ... ..	1	1	2
Houghton-in-the-dale ... ..	1	1	2
Kettlestone ... ..	2	3	5
Langham ... ..	3	4	7
Melton Constable ... ..	5	7	12
Morston ... ..	—	1	1
Pudding Norton ... ..	1	1	2
Raynham, East ... ..	2	—	2
Raynham, South ... ..	2	1	3
Raynham, West ... ..	2	—	2
Ryburgh, Great ... ..	5	1	6
Sculthorpe ... ..	2	6	8
Sharrington ... ..	1	—	1
Snoring, Great ... ..	1	1	2
Snoring, Little ... ..	1	3	4
Stibbard ... ..	3	2	5
Stiffkey ... ..	6	2	8
Swanton Novers ... ..	—	3	3
Tatterford ... ..	1	2	3
Tattersett ... ..	1	—	1
Thurning ... ..	1	—	1
Thursford ... ..	—	2	2
Toftrees ... ..	1	1	2
Walsingham, Great ... ..	5	4	9
Walsingham, Little ... ..	5	6	11
Warham ... ..	1	1	2
Wighton ... ..	4	5	9
Wiveton ... ..	2	1	3
Wood Norton ... ..	3	3	6
Total ... ..	127	126	253

**TABLE 10. CANCER.**

Below is given the various types of cancer which occurred:—

				Males	Females	Total
Cancer of	Stomach	...	...	8	2	10
"	"	Rectum	...	3	1	4
"	"	Colon	...	3	1	4
"	"	Pancreas	...	2	1	3
"	"	Liver	...	1	1	2
"	"	Bronchus	...	1	1	2
"	"	Breast	...	—	2	2
"	"	Brain	...	1	1	2
"	"	Uterus	...	—	1	1
"	"	Throat	...	1	—	1
"	"	Thyroid	...	—	1	1
Total				20	12	32

**TABLE 11. CANCER.**

The following table shows the incidence of cancer during the past 5 years:—

	1943	1944	1945	1946	1947
Males	22	8	11	17	20
Females	19	14	13	17	12
Total	41	22	24	34	32

**TABLE 12. SUMMARY OF BIRTHS & DEATHS RATES.**

	1943	1944	1945	1946	1947
Live Births	16.68	19.2	16.8	18.2	16.14
Still Births	0.65	0.23	0.52	0.58	0.16
Crude Deaths	13.79	13.44	11.7	12.8	13.7
Infant Mortality	24.82	20.83	37.6	32.1	23.6

**TABLE 13. SUMMARY OF VITAL STATISTICS.**

	1943	1944	1945	1946	1947
Population	16830	17410	17220	18250	18402
Live Births	282	336	292	246	297
Still Births	11	4	9	8	3
Deaths	253	234	202	203	253
Infant Mortality	7	7	11	8	6

TABLE 14. INFECTIOUS DISEASES (Other than Tuberculosis).

Disease	New Cases
Scarlet Fever ... ..	7
Pneumonia ... ..	6
Puerperal Pyrexia ... ..	2
Jaundice ... ..	1
Diphtheria ... ..	1
Ac. Poliomyelitis ... ..	1
Ophthalmia Neonatorum ...	1
Total ... ..	19

TABLE 15. INFECTIOUS DISEASES (According to Age Group).

	Under	One	1-	2-	3-	4-	5-	10-	15-	20-	35-	45-	65-	Not Stated	Ttl.
Scarlet Fever	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	1	1	2	—	—	—	—	7
Pneumonia	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	2	—	6
Puer. Pyrexia	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	2
Jaundice	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1
Diphtheria	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
Ac. Polio.	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Oph. Neonatorum	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1
Total	—	1	—	1	—	—	4	1	1	5	1	—	2	3	19

TABLE 16. MEASLES & WHOOPING COUGH.

	1943	1944	1945	1946	1947
Measles	88	116	106	82	144
Whooping Cough	9	102	4	45	32
Total	97	218	110	127	176



TABLE 17. INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

Comparison of Infectious Diseases for School Children as compared with legal notifications for whole population.

	Notified by G.P. Whole Population	Notified by School as certified by G.P.	Notified by School as not certified by G.P.	Total Notified by School
Measles	144	22	61	83
Whooping Cough	32	11	12	23
Scarlet Fever	7	1	1	2
Impetigo		—	2	2
Ringworm		—	—	—
Scabies	Not	—	1	1
Mumps	Notifiable	—	3	3
Chicken Pox		4	44	48
German Measles		—	—	—

TABLE 18. TUBERCULOSIS. (Details of new cases during 1947).

Age Period	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
	M.	F.	M.	F.
0 —	—	—	—	—
1 —	—	—	2	—
5 —	1	—	—	2
15 —	2	5	—	1
25 —	3	2	1	—
35 —	—	—	—	—
45 —	1	—	—	—
55 —	—	—	—	—
65 —	1	—	—	—
	8	7	3	3
Totals	15		6	
	21			

TABLE 19. TUBERCULOSIS. (No. of cases on T.B. Register end 1947).

	Males	Females	Total
Pulmonary	40	24	64
Non-Pulmonary	25	24	49
Total	65	48	113

**TABLE 20. TUBERCULOSIS. (Details of new cases for last 5 years).**

		1943	1944	1945	1946	1947
Pulmonary	M.	8	14	5	5	8
	F.	6	3	3	6	7
Non-Pulmonary	M.	6	2	5	2	3
	F.	6	3	3	2	3
Total		26	22	16	15	21

**TABLE 21. DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION SCHEME.**

The following table shows the immunisation state of the children in the district on 31st December, 1947:—

	Under School Age	School Age	Total
Numbers Immunised	674	2196	2870
Estimated Population	1370	2398	3768
Percentage Immunised	49%	92%	76%
Numbers Reinforced	—	1171	1171

**TABLE 22. DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION.**

The following table shows the immunisation state of the children in the district for the past 5 years:—

		1943	1944	1945	1946	1947
% Pre-School Children						
Immunised		54%	50%	38%	43%	49%
% School Children						
Immunised		88%	87%	80%	88%	92%
Number	Pre-School					
Immunised	Children	275	112	129	233	262
during the	School					
Year	Children	155	51	55	117	96
Numbers Reinforced						
during Year		—	—	—	510	577

**TABLE 23. FACTORIES ACT, 1937. (Part I of the Act).**

Particulars		Number of Defects		
	Found	Remedied	Referred by H.M. Inspector	
(1)	(3)	(4)	(6)	
Want of cleanliness (S.1)	...	1	1	—
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)	...	1	1	—
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)	...			
(b) Unsuitable or defective	...	3	3	2
Total	...	5	5	2

## PART IV

(Report of the Senior Sanitary Inspector).

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in presenting my report for the year 1947.

### 1. GENERAL.

The year has seen an intensification of the difficulties which confront the present-day sanitary officer in his attempt to improve the sanitary circumstances and amenities of his area. In the field of housing repairs and re-housing, still the most important and necessary work of the Department, these difficulties are felt most. Slowness in new house construction results in the continued occupation of houses unfit for occupation many years ago. Scarcity of building materials and labour, added to the poor rents received in so many cases by landlords of rent restricted houses, makes the latter ever more reluctant to carry out repairs. The effect of this policy is illustrated by the number of Class 3 houses revealed by the Hobhouse Survey. This classification indicates houses unfit by reason of major disrepair, and so often includes houses which, but for lack of regular maintenance, and often by lack of care by tenants, could today have been regarded as fit houses. Seven years war neglect, followed by reluctance to repair them now unless finally faced with a statutory order to repair, means that many of these houses referred to will soon have to be counted as totally unfit. On the other hand there are several instances of property owners who have placed orders one or two years ago and who are still unable to get a builder's services. It can be stated, however, that no building licence applications for the repair of houses, especially cottage property, have been held up by the Department.

A further illustration of the difficulty of obtaining progress is the fact that the Sewage Pumping Station, Fakenham, burnt out in February, 1947, is still roofed by tarpaulin sheets (and was without glass in February, 1948). This is building work for which all priorities have been granted.

Despite seeming lack of progress caused by such delays, some progress is revealed when the position is reviewed as a whole for the year.

District Scavenging has been extended to nine more parishes for night-soil collection, four more for refuse collection, and of these four parishes get both services.

A modest amount of house repair has gone on and in several cases improvements have been incorporated with essential repairs, to the great improvement of the cottages.

One hundred and seven more properties have been con-



nected to the sewer in Fakenham, although great difficulty has been experienced in obtaining the necessary galvanised water pipe.

Probably the most modern dairy premises in this part of Norfolk have been opened during the year and from the evidence of regular inspections and samples is providing a highly satisfactory milk supply for the area.

Ice-cream premises in the district have been brought up to a minimum standard, and in two cases have attained a high standard.

A start was made in December on the construction of the Scavenging Dépôt, Fakenham. This building, which includes shower baths, changing room and a messroom for the employees, will house the Council's scavenging vehicles.

The staff of the Public Health Department are aware of the task before them. There are large accumulations of work caused by the fact that for three months of the year there was no Surveyor and Senior Sanitary Inspector appointed, for seven months after that there was no additional sanitary inspector, for four months the temporary clerk's post was vacant and for one month there was no shorthand typist.

## 2. RECORD OF INSPECTIONS.

Public Health Act .....	347
Public Health Act Re-visits .....	263
Housing Act .....	107
Housing Act Re-visits .....	35
Visits in connection with the Hobhouse Survey .....	193
Cowsheds & Dairies Order .....	21
Infectious diseases, acts and orders .....	17
Rooms disinfected .....	21
Visits to slaughterhouses, food premises, etc. ....	101
Visits in connection with Ice-cream regulations .....	26
Visits under the Food & Drugs Acts .....	69
Visits to factories and workshops .....	18
Visits to petroleum stores .....	1
Shops Acts .....	1
Shops Acts re-visits .....	1
Visits in connection with District Scavenging .....	326
Visits in connection with Civil Building Control .....	161
Visits in connection with main water supplies .....	5
Visits in connection with rural water supplies .....	65
Miscellaneous visits .....	139
<b>Total .....</b>	<b>1917</b>



### 3. HOUSING.

(a) During the year very little progress has been made with the Hobhouse Survey, but Mr. W. E. Ramm, appointed as the additional sanitary inspector, commenced duties on 29. 10. 47., and Fulmodestone was surveyed by the year's end, revealing houses in that parish as being provisionally in the following categories:—

Class I .....	25
Class II .....	47
Class III .....	110
Class V .....	30

---

Total ..... 212

Class I represents houses in all respects fit.

Class II includes houses fit but for minor defects.

Class III includes houses having major structural defects.

Class V represents houses considered unfit for human occupation and recommended for demolition.

The Survey is a preliminary one to give a complete picture of housing conditions in the area and the figures should not be taken as a final classification of all the properties, since for instance, by the time legal action is taken with the Class V houses it is envisaged that many of the Class III houses will have deteriorated to Class V.

For the Survey it can be claimed that a fair number of repairs are being done as a result of the inspections, that it is the best method of obtaining a complete view of the sanitary circumstances of each village and finally, though less important, from an administrative viewpoint, the Hobhouse parish journals are invaluable in the office, especially when the village has been street numbered, the books being in constant demand by other departments.

My criticisms of its efficiency are, that through lack of staff, the villages are not being re-visited quickly enough after the informal repair notices have been issued, rendering these latter in some cases useless, and secondly, with the present rate of new house construction, the information obtained will be out-dated long before re-housing takes place. The Survey is now two-thirds complete.

(b) In addition to the parishes mentioned, 107 other working-class houses have been inspected and in all 253 informal notices, dealing with 347 premises, have been issued, and four statutory notices have been served, resulting in the work ordered being done.

### 4. PUBLIC HEALTH ACTS.

Legal proceedings were taken against the occupier of a house in Fakenham for allowing the premises to be in a filthy condition. The magistrates fined the defendant £2 0s. 0d. and 10s. for each day the offence should continue.

## 5. SEWERAGE AND DRAINAGE.

(a) Approximately 3,300 yards of sewer ditches were cleaned out during the year in various parishes.

(b) Shallow sewers in Blakeney, Little Walsingham and Hempton continue to give trouble owing to disrepair and may be regarded as potential dangers to health. The urgency of proper sewerage for the parishes of Little and Great Walsingham, Hempton and Blakeney is greater than ever and it is hoped that next year may see a start in these three schemes in particular.

(c) Recurrent flooding at Knight Street, Little Walsingham, has been alleviated, it is hoped, by the insertion of additional street gullies and cleaning out a pond on the Egmere Road.

(d) In addition to the sewage works at Great Walsingham, Melton Constable and Fakenham, which have been maintained through the year, the Council has taken over on a temporary basis the maintenance of the sewage works at Little Snoring R.A.F. Station. The works have been neglected and it will be some time before they are in good working order again.

(e) Depositing night-soil at the Fakenham Sewage Farm ceased during the year owing to inadequate means of disposal, and disposal is now made at Great Walsingham and Little Snoring Sewage Works.

(f) On February 22nd the Sewage Pumping Station at Fakenham was burnt out, all woodwork being destroyed and the building left roofless. This occurred in the coldest time of the year. Six lorry loads of dèbris were removed the next day and a temporary roof erected and thanks to the splendid co-operation of the Council's workmen and the East Anglian Electric Supply Co., a pump was being electrically driven twenty-four hours after the fire. Damage to plant was small.

(g) A firm in the vicinity of Fakenham well were requested to construct a specially-designed watertight tank to my specification for the reception of ablution and washing-down water from the company's buildings. The necessity for this was to prevent possible pollution of the well by a chemical used in a crop-spraying process used by the company.

## 6. DISTRICT SCAVENGING.

As mentioned in the introduction to this report, a substantial extension to the area covered by direct labour scavenging was made in September.

(a) The following shows the number of householders receiving advantage from the Council's scavenging services:—

Premises from which night-soil is collected twice weekly .....	2291
--	------



Premises from which refuse is collected once weekly (fortnightly in case of parishes of Barsham and Sculthorpe) ..... 2492

Two hundred and thirty-seven loads were removed from cess-pools, 166 being from Council housing estates.

(b) The use of Fakenham tip was dropped in September and a constant cause of uneasiness to the department was thus alleviated. Toftrees tip, though difficult of access (now improved by the construction of a Summerfield tracking road) is more easily controlled with the advantage of remoteness from dwellings.

(c) The following amounts of salvage were collected by the Council's scavengers and by voluntary collectors in the villages:—

	£	s.	d.
38 tons, 6 cwts., mixed waste, sold for .....	249	0	0
2592 bottles, sold for .....	10	16	0
Quantity of scrap metal .....	8	7	3
Total value .....	£268	3	3

## 7. CIVIL BUILDING CONTROL.

The Sub-Committee's policy has been to issue building licences for all works of repair and works which would be the subject of statutory action by the Council if not carried out. A limit of the amount to be licensed monthly by the Council was fixed at £8,000 in March, 1947, and this sum has never even been approached in any month during the year.

The following summarises the number of licences granted during the whole year:—

Type of premises.	No. licences.	Authorised expenditure. £
New dwellings .....	8 .....	9350
Repairs to dwelling-houses .....	400 .....	26659
Conversions to form additional housing accommodation .....	7 .....	6150
Repairs, etc., to business, agricultural and other .....	195 .....	10109
Total of operational licences .....	600 .....	52268
Maintenance licences:		
Agricultural estates .....	9 .....	8004

## 8. INSPECTION OF FOOD PREMISES.

(a) The sale and manufacture of ice-cream has gained great national prominence during the year. In this district there are six registered premises, two of these being premises where ice-cream is manufactured. There are three retailers who obtain their ice-cream

from premises outside the district. Satisfactory results of samples taken can be claimed for the ice-cream made in the district, but consistently bad results were obtained from samples taken from itinerant vendors. Great trouble has been taken to impress on these latter people the necessity of cleanliness in handling the commodity and the provision of a supply of water and washing facilities to be carried on the vehicle, but despite apparent co-operation poor results from these retailers must be reported. Of the samples examined, 2 have been declared Grade 1, 5 Grade II, 2 Grade III and 4 Grade IV.

(b) The following food was condemned as being unfit for human consumption during the year:—

#### MEAT.

Home-killed .....	Beef .....	228 lbs.
	Beef (Offal) .....	3 lbs.
	Mutton (Fat) .....	14 lbs.
	Pork .....	49 lbs.
	Pork (Offal) .....	4 lbs.
Imported and canned.	Beef .....	360 lbs.
	Corned Beef .....	190 lbs.
	Mutton .....	319 lbs.

#### OTHER FOODS.

Tinned or bottled food .....	368 lbs.
Cheese .....	20½ lbs.
Bacon .....	17½ lbs.
Dried fruit .....	3 lbs.
Eggs .....	29
Lard .....	2½ lbs.
Dried vegetable .....	28 lbs.
Cereals .....	7 lbs.
Tea .....	15¾ lbs.
Sugar .....	224 lbs.
Cake .....	4 lbs.
Butter .....	22½ lbs.
Custard and other powders, etc. ....	84 pkts.

(c) Two samples of infected sausage meat were discovered during food poisoning investigations. In many cases food handling and storage conditions in the district are below standard and it is hoped that a drive to improve these conditions and to implement the Food and Drugs Act 1938 and the Shops Act 1934, especially the provisions of these enactments dealing with sanitary conveniences and washing facilities for food handlers will be commenced in 1948.

(d) The meat supply of this District is chiefly obtained through the Ministry of Food Wells and Cawston slaughterhouses.



## 9. COWSHEDS & DAIRIES.

The following shows the number of registered premises and persons:—

Wholesalers .....	126
Retail purveyors .....	63
Dairymen (3 T.T.) .....	4
Producers from outside the district retail- ing within .....	6
Of the above:—	
Licensed T.T. producers .....	25
„ „ retailers .....	4
„ Accredited producers .....	36
„ „ retailers .....	15

Biological sampling is now entirely in the hands of the Norfolk County Council and 50 samples were taken by them in the District during the year and tested for the presence of tubercle bacilli. Two hundred and fifteen samples were taken from designated herds.

The Wensum Dairy, Fakenham, opened at the beginning of the year for the retailing of T.T., Accredited and Pasteurised milks. Eight samples taken for the phosphatase test to test for the completeness of Pasteurisation have all been successful.

## 10. WATER SUPPLIES.

As has frequently been stated in Committee, the condition of private water supplies, especially from shallow wells, gives cause for alarm and emphasises the need for a safe and piped water supply to all villages.

Initial samples from private wells .....	49
Unsatisfactory samples amongst above .....	34
Repeat samples .....	16
Repeat samples—unsatisfactory .....	8
Samples from Fakenham—Hempton supply .....	47

I am, Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

A. H. EAGLE,

Senior Sanitary Inspector and Surveyor.

## PART V.

### (Report of the Water Engineer).

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to submit my report on the Waterworks undertaking for the year ended December, 1947.

#### 1. GENERAL.

(a) Considerable difficulty has been experienced during the past year in meeting all demands for a piped water supply, particularly during the April—September period, in May the daily average exceeded 110,000 gallons.

(b) Piped water supply to No. 82 P.O.W. Camp, Hempton, was terminated on the 4th August, the camp authorities having put down their own borehole for water supply.

(c) One of the foremost problems confronting us is the increasing consumption per head, and in particular the very large increase during recent years. There are probably four principal general causes:—

(1) The introduction of hot and cold running water into bedrooms.

(2) The general increased use of baths.

(3) Watering of gardens.

(4) Frost.

(d) Higher standards of living and the introduction of running water into bedrooms no one could eliminate even if it were desirable to do so. It undoubtedly has a marked effect on general consumption, baths too cannot be discouraged (though there is no doubt that many people use them in an entirely unreasonable, and unnecessary manner).

(e) I frankly admit that I see no satisfactory solution to prevent the watering of gardens short of metering. To a great degree it is true to say that, whilst the honest consumer always pays for watering his garden, there are many not so honest who do not.

(f) The remedy to prevent damage by frost is in the initial internal plumbing and the lagging of pipes, together with the education of the consumer.

#### 2. WATER SUPPLY.

Water pumped during 1947 amounted to 37,178,000 gallons, a daily average of 101,857 gallons, distributed as follows:—

Fakenham and Hempton .....	22,600,448	gallons
Daily Average .....	61,919	„
Meter Consumers .....	11,057,748	„
Daily Average .....	30,295	„

West Raynham Air Station .....	3,520,700	„
Daily Average .....	9,645	„

There are 1,277 premises in the Parishes of Fakenham and Hempton of which 1,074 are connected to the main water supply, an increase of 111 during the year.

### 3. WATER SOFTENING.

Difficulty was experienced by irregular deliveries of salt, due we understand to export demands, and general shortage of railway wagons.

### 4. ANALYSIS OF WATER SUPPLY.

The sampling of water for analysis is done by a fixed sampling programme so arranged by the Senior Sanitary Inspector that the check is twofold, a sample is forwarded each week to Dr. Macdonald, P.H.L.S., Bowthorpe Road, Norwich, and a sample is submitted each quarter to an independent laboratory for Chemical and Bacteriological results. All these were satisfactory, whilst samples submitted to the Public Analyst on the 9th October, 1947, resulted as follows:—

Result of analysis	Grains per gallon
Free and Saline ammonia .....	nil
Albuminoid ammonia .....	.0014
Combined Chlorine .....	2.7
Nitrogen as Nitrates .....	.225
Nitrites .....	nil
Oxygen absorbed in 4 hours at 80° F. ....	.015
Hardness before boiling (total) .....	23.0°
Hardness after boiling (permanent) .....	—

Opinion: This is a very good water, free from all sign of pollution and quite fit for drinking purposes.

### 5. WATERWORKS PLANT.

No. 1 Hayward-Tyler Vertical Spindle Deep Well Pump has been overhauled by the makers, No. 2 pump is dismantled and has been awaiting replacement parts since August, routine overhaul of Diesel engine and Booster Station plant was made during the year, and the necessary repairs or renewals were made, all external iron-work at Holt Road and Hempton Pumping Stations has been repainted.

### 6. WATER MAINS EXTENSION.

280 yards of 4in. Cast Iron Main, and 120 yards of 3in. Cast Iron Main with the necessary Sluice Valves and Fire Hydrants have been laid and tested at The Drift and Lancaster Avenue, Fakenham,



## 7. CHLORINATION.

This supply of water is chlorinated before being pumped into a high level reservoir, the water has no plumbo-solvent action.

## 8. PARISHES WITH PIPED SUPPLY.

(a) Apart from Melton Constable and Blakeney there is no piped supply to houses in the parishes of the Rural District apart from Council Houses, particulars of which are given on page 31.

## 9. CONCLUSION.

The Council's Main Water Supply to the Parishes of Fakenham and Hempton has been operating under increasing difficulties due to the lessened yield from the well at Fakenham, plans for the augmentation of the supply are still in the hands of the Ministry of Health five months after the public inquiry.

The continued interest shown by the Chairman and Members of the Public Health Committee, the Clerk and Dr. J. C. Johnston, together with other colleagues on the staff, is much appreciated.

I am, Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

E. HAYMAN.

District Water Engineer.



# Piped Water Supply in the Walsingham Rural District.

Parish	No. of Premises	No. on Piped Supply	Size of Bore	Depth of Bore	Storage Capacity	Power used	Met- ered	Treatment of Water Softening & Chlorination
Fakenham						Electric & Diesel	Yes	No
& Hempton ...	1,277	1,074	6 ft.	176 ft.	100,000	17½ h.p. & 26 h.p.	Yes	No
Blakeney .....	280	12	6 inch	180 ft.	1,500	2 h.p. Motor	No	No
Briston .....	412	44	4 ft.	80 ft.	1,500	2 h.p. Motor	No	No
Fulmondestone ..	81	4	4 ft.	50 ft.	1,000	2½ h.p. Petrol	No	No
Helhoughton ...	81	6	4 ft.	45 ft.	1,000	2½ h.p. Petrol	No	No
Hindringham ...	170	8	4 ft.	60 ft.	1,000	2½ h.p. Petrol	No	No
South Raynham	33	6	6 inch	160 ft.	1,500	2½ h.p. Petrol	No	No
West Raynham	61	8	6 inch	175 ft.	3,000	5 h.p. Petrol	No	No
Stibbard .....	104	16	6 inch	144 ft.	1,500	2 h.p. Electric	No	No
Sculthorpe .....	181	32	6 inch	180 ft.	1,500	1¼ h.p. Electric	Yes	No
Stiffkey .....	128	11	6 inch	120 ft.	1,500	2½ h.p. Petrol	No	No
Field Dalling ...	103	18	6 inch	166 ft.	1,500	2½ h.p. Petrol	No	No
Gt. Ryburgh ....	158	12	6 inch	160 ft.	1,500	2 h.p. Electric	No	No
Walsingham .....	368	29	6 inch	180 ft.	1,500	2 h.p. Electric	Yes	No
Wighton .....	110	6	6 inch	180 ft.	1,500	2 h.p. Electric	No	No
Melton-Constable	247	34	4 ft.	80 ft.	5,000	2 h.p. Electric	No	No
Langham .....	77	20			50,000		Yes	Chlorinated R.A.F. Supply

## 267 Council Houses. (Housing Department control water supply.)

Melton-Constable								
Railway Wks. Blakeney	120	20 inch	500 ft.	120,000	20 h.p. Electric	Yes	No (Owners Brit. Rlys.)	
Mr. Allen (owner)	42	5 ft.	80 ft.	3,000	5 h.p. Diesel	No	No (Pte. Owner)	
Pudding Norton								
Mr. Thistleton-Smith (owner)	31			3,000	Ram Pump	No	No (Pte. Owner)	







